



*U. S. Department of Energy
and the
National Science Foundation*

May 27, 2004



Professor Abraham Seiden
Institute for Particle Physics
University of California at Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, California 95064

Dear Professor Seiden:

On September 29, 2003, the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel (HEPAP) endorsed the Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel (P5) Report recommending that BTeV be undertaken as quickly as feasible so that it could be completed before 2009. Based on the Report, the Department of Energy granted Critical Decision 0, Statement of Mission Need, to BTeV in February 2004. The Office of Science then conducted a technical, cost and schedule review chaired by Daniel Lehman in April 2004. The conclusion of that review was that the technical scope was adequate to meet the science requirements and that the cost estimate was fairly complete and reliable. However, the presented schedule, "Detector Complete and Ready for Commissioning with Beam by October 2009," was judged to be not achievable with the proposed funding and resource profile.

Fermilab and the BTeV project are preparing a new schedule that may complete the detector in stages. The project will prepare a comparison of the physics reach of LHC-B and BTeV under the new proposed scenario. Please evaluate the physics impact of such a schedule vis a vis LHC-B and provide an evaluation and recommendation. It is our understanding that the Fermilab Physics Advisory Committee (PAC) also plans to do a similar evaluation and provide its findings to P5 as input.

We appreciate your performing this important function. Since the BTeV construction schedule is a critical element for its success, we would like to have your response on this matter as soon as possible and preferably by July 16, 2004.

Sincerely,

Robin Staffin
Associate Director for High Energy Physics
Office of Science
Department of Energy

Joseph L. Dehmer
Director
Division of Physics
National Science Foundation

cc: Fred Gilman
Michael Witherell